(b) The responsibility for administration of the medical care under the ESI Scheme vests on the State Govts/UT Admns. Therefore, the State Govts. are required to make necessary medical arrangements before the ESI Scheme is implemented in a new area. Due to financial constraints, sometimes State Govts. find it difficult to complete the arrangement for medical care. In order to overcome this difficulty the ESI Corporation has decided to meet the total expenditure on medical care in respect of new areas for an Initial period of three years. The ESI Corporation has formulated a phased programme for implementation of the Scheme in new areas and communicated the same to the State Govts. for making medical arrangements. Meanwhile, the Scheme is being gradually implemented in new areas so as to cover maximum number of industrial workers under the ESI Scheme.

Industrial Disputes Pending in Delhi

1814. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI MISA R. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 67 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th July, 1993 and state:

(a) whether Government constituted any separate panel of judges to preside over Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals in Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any presiding officer of Delhi Labour Court/Industrial Tribunal was recently retired compulsorily and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any other presiding officer has been appointed in his place and if so, the details thereof;

(f) the number of industrial disputes that were pending before this Labour Court/Indutrial Tribunal when the Presiding Officer was removed;

(g) whether any directive has been issued to dispose off the long pending disputes quickly; and

(h) if so, by when and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the existing practice, the officers belonging to Delhi Judicial Services/ Delhi Higher Judicial Services are appointed on deputation basis as Presiding Officers of Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals in Delhi.

(d) Yes, Sir. Shri Y. S. Jonwal, Presiding Officer, Labour Court No. I, Delhi was retired compulsorily on 1-6-93 under Fundamental Rules 56j and Rule 33 of Delhi Judicial Service Rules, 1970.

(e) No other Presiding Officer has been appointed in his place. However, Smt. Bimla Makin, Presiding Officer, Labour Court No. VI, Delhi is looking after the work of Labour Court No. I also.

(f) 2359 industrial disputes and 2827 applications were pending before the Labour Court No. I, Delhi.

(g) and (h) Old pending cases are being reviewed periodically. The Presiding Officers of Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals have also been advised to accord priority to old cases so that they are disposed of expeditiously.

Assistance to Insured Persons under ESIC

1815. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total contribution received by E.S.I.C. from insured persons and employers in the year ending 1992-93 and what is the total money spent during this period for medical benefits of insured persons;

(b) what is the number of insured persons who have been provided financial assistance of more than rupees one lakh

during this period, State-wise, for medical treatment alongwith the case rate of survival of insured persons; and

(c) what is the minimum period required for providing financial assistance to an insured person for higher treatment after he is duly recommended by the certifying physician and what is the monitoring authority in case of delay for providing financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) During 1992-93, the total contribution received by the ESIC from I.Ps and employers was Rs. 449.95 crores and the total money spent for medical benefits was Rs. 187.30 crores.

(b) During 1992-93, eleven persons had been provided with financial assistance of more than Rs. 1 lakh each in the States of Kerala (2), Andhra Pradesh (1), Karnataka (3), Gujarat (1), Rajasthan (3), West Bengal (1). Survival rate of the concerned IPs is 100% (excluding one case from A.P. regarding which information is not available).

(c) The responsibiliy for administration of the medical care under the ESI Scheme vests on the State Governments/U.T. Administrations except in Delhi and NOIDA where it is being directly administered by the ESI Corporation. For super specialities treatment of the I.Ps., the State Government/U.T. Administrations are authorised to immediately advance the money/financial assistance to the institutions where such treatment is proposed to be provided. There is no minimum period fixed for rendering such financial assistance. If there is any delay on this account the matter can be raised before the Director/Administrative Medical Officer of the ESI Scheme in the concerned State.

Revision in Minimum Wages and Pensions

1816. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to enhance the minimum wages and pensions of the workers in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The Central Government have issued Notification on 11-6-1993 proposing to revise the minimum rates of wages for the workers employed in 39 Scheduled employments in the Central sphere comprising mainly the activities of construction, mining, and loading and unloading operations in Railway good's sheds. The proposed rates of minimum wages for the unskilled category of worker varies from Rs. 21/- p.d. to Rs. 28/- p.d for construction workers, from Rs. 24/- p.d. to Rs. 35/- p.d. for Railway good's shed workers and Rs. 24/- p.d. to Rs. 29/- p.d. for mine workers. A bill has been introduced in Rajya Sabha for amendment of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 for empowering the Central Government to frame pension scheme for the Employees Provident Fund subscribers. After the bill is passed by Parliament, necessary action to finalise and notify the pension scheme will be taken. As such, the question of considering enhancement in pension at this stage does not arise

Vacancies in ESI Hospitals

1817. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of vacancies of Doctors, Specialists and para medical staff in the ESI hospitals in Andhra Pradesh and in the country; and

(b) what steps are contemplated to improve E.S.I. hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) According to the available information, 45 posts of medical officers, 18 posts of specialists and 99 posts of paramedical staff are vacant in the ESI hospitals in Andhra Pradesh. In the country, 838 posts of medical officers 233 posts of specialists and 2157 posts of paramedical staff are vacant under the ESI Scheme.